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Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 INR-05 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 PA-01
IO-06 L-01 EUR-08 DODE-00 PM-03 NSC-05 /050 R

DRAFTED BY EA/TIMBS:MEASTON:CCH
APPROVED BY EA/TIMBS:REFRITTS
INR - MR. BEDLINGTON
----------127901 060457Z /23
R 051707Z APR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 087304

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, UK, BY, MY

SUBJECT: UN BRUNEI CONSTITUTIONAL DIALOGUE

REF: KUALA LUMPUR 2577

1. UK WASH EMBASSY AT ITS INITIATIVE BRIEFED DEPT OFFICERS RECENTLY ON CURRENT STATE OF PLAY UK BRUNEI NEGOTIATIONS PROVIDING LESS DETAIL BUT SUBSTANTIALLY SAME THRUST AS REFTEL.

2. GENERAL IMPRESSION IS THAT WHILE UK DESIRES TO DO DECENT THING RE BRUNEI, THEIR PATIENCE IS RUNNING DOWN.
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WE UNDERSTAND QUEEN'S LETTER MAY BE PRESENTED TO SULTAN DURING FIRST WEEK OF APRIL.IF RESPONSE IS NOT FORTHCOMING WITHIN SEVEN DAYS AFTER DELIVERY, THEREBY INDICATING A "SINCERE DESIRE" BY SULTAN AND SIR OMAR TO ENTER INTO MEANINGFUL DISCUSSIONS FOR TREATY REVISION, EMB REP CLAIMS UK WILL IMMEIDATELY ANNOUNCE WITHDRAWAL OF GURKAS.

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3. WE ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT FROM BRITISH VIEWPOINT, NEW TREATY WILL INSIST ON BRUNEI ACCEPTING SUBSTANTIALLY MORE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE CONDUCT OF ITS FOREIGN AFFAIRS, ALTHOUGH BRITISH WOULD BE WILLING TO ACT ON BEHALF OF BRUNEI WHERE IT DOES NOT HAVE REPRESENTATION. EXEQUATURS

FOR INSTANCE WOULD BE ISSUED FROM BRUNEI, NOT LONDON AS HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN SITUATION.

4. BRITISH REMAIN CONCERNED THAT SIR OMAR AND SULTAN STILL DO NOT APPRECIATE FIRMNESS OF BRITISH POSITION AND MAY ATTEMPT TO PROLONG DISCUSSIONS. THEY HAVE BEEN IN CONTACT WITH SULTAN'S LONDON BASED LAWYER AND CONSTITUTIONAL ADVISOR AND HAVE ADMONISHED HIM TO MAKE KNOWN TO SULTAN AND SIR OMAR THE SERIOUSNESS OF SITUATION IF BRUNEI IS NOT RESPONSIVE TO UK DEMAND FOR SERIOUS TALKS. UK INITIATIVE HERE IS PROBABLY PART OF SAME EFFORT -- PARTICULARLY FOLLOWING RECENT VISITS OF EMB KL DCM OR DEPT OFFICER TO BRUNEI. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
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Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Litigation History:
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TAGS: PGOV, OTRA, PDEV, UK, BY, MY
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